GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2687
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2016
Encroachment on Forest Land
Verma Shri Rajesh

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are reports that un-social elements particularly in the National Capital Territory of Delhi have illegally occupied hundreds of hectares of forest land and are running activities which promote pollution;
(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the steps being taken by the Government to remove the illegal encroachment on the forest land and take strict action against guilty persons/officers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a)& (b)No such report on encroachment of forest lands by un-social elements particularly in the National Capital Territory of Delhi has come to the notice of this Ministry. However, encroachments on forest lands have been reported by various State/Union Territory Governments. The State/UT-wise details of the forest area under encroachments in the country are given in Annexure-I.

(c)Protection and Management of Forests is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State/UT Government and hence the action to remove encroachment is taken by the States/UTs as per the provisions of various acts such as Indian Forest Act, 1927; Wildlife Protection Act, 1972; Forest Conservation Act, 1980 and various rules & regulations thereof.